Grant of deemed university status to BIT. Mesra, Ranchi

2887. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the U.G.C. Act 1956, the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi was granted deemed university status in August, 1986;

(b) whether as per the said Act the consent of the Ranchi University and the Government of Bihar was sought prior to grantnig the deemed university status to the Institute;

(c) whether the financial aspect relating to functioning of the BIT. Mesra were examined before granting the deemed university status, and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) whether the accounts thereof had not been audited by Auditor General Bihar before the grant of such status?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The U.G.C. Act does not provide for taking prior assent of the concerned university/State Government for granting deemed university to an institution. However, the State Government was consulted in the matter.

(c) The proposal was examined keeping in view the U.G.C. guidelines which, inter alia, lay down that the institution should have the necessary financial resources and viability.

(d) The Institute has been submitting its statement of accounts audited by a Chartered Accountant in respect of the grants sanctioned by the Ministry.

Sufficiency in life-saving drugs

2888. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some life-saving drugs are not available in the country in sufficient quantities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to procure these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): As per information furnished by the Ministry of Industry, Department of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals:

(a) and (b) Reports on shortages of some important drugs like Anitron and Maxetol tablets in some parts of the country were received.

(c) The producer company M/s. S. G. Pharmaceuticals, Daroda have informed that the shortages were due to disruption in production because of non-availability of the bulk drugs. The company has not come the difficulties and resumed normal production, based on the Ministry of Industry's advise, the company has already rushed sufficient stocks to various, parts of the country.

Sale of trawlers by Union Carbide

2889. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Union Carbide is fast selling away its fishing boats to Indian companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Director General of Shipping has given permission for sales of such fishing trawlers to Union Carbide without proper inspection of their seaworthiness;

(c) whether it is a fact that Union Carbide has sold such old fishing vessels to innocent buyers in Visakhapatnam; and